

Dear partners and friends,

It is a great pleasure for us to share with you current and recent activities of the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza"!

In this issue you could find information about:



Current activities and initiatives



Recent activities



Current activities and initiatives

The 4th course of the National Program is to be held from 17 to 20 March. The topic is "Bulgaria in the EU - Principles of Good Governance". More information will be published on our website after the event.

Have a look at the newest materials on philanthropy uploaded on the Internet site of the Philanthropist Club on http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club_na_filantropa/. How do you choose the organizations to which you donate? You could find useful tips on http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/club_na_filantropa/PDF/How_to_choose_charity.pdf (in Bulgarian, however the source is in English). Some of the ideas are based on the US experience and practices, but could be applied worldwide.

From March on the final discussions at local level under the project "Life Changing Challenges" are taking place. A joint team of Platform AGORA - Active Communities for Development Alternatives and the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" is visiting Radilovo, Malko Tarnovo, Chirpan, Krushare, Oreshak, Garvan, Antonovo, Provadia, Vidin, Kula, Pozharevo and Malashevtsi and have meetings with the local communities. During the discussions, the twenty-four community leaders, trained under the Programme for active civic participation and leadership, will present in front of other community members the solutions to the problems on which they worked in the past 3 months. The project is financed by the NGO Programme under the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism.

The **eighteen non-financial projects** focused on the Roma community will be publicly presented in March. They were developed by the participants in the **Programme for active civic involvement and leadership skills development for young Roma** within the framework of a several months' mentoring programme. Six public discussions will be organized in the planning regions and the Programme participants from the respective region, the mentors and representatives of local communities will be invited. At the end of March, the final meeting under the project will be held, at which all stakeholders will be invited. The project "**Encouraging Civic Participation of Young Roma**" is jointly implemented by the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" and the Association "New Road - Hairedin" and financed by the NGO Programme under the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2009-2014.



Recent activities

On 11 March the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" and the Bulgarian Environmental Partnership Foundation organized a **roundtable with municipal authorities and experts**. The aim was to inform them about the outcomes from the survey regarding the ineffective reaction and actions of the local administration after the severe weather events that took place in Bulgaria last year. The event was part of the project "**Collaborative Action for Enhancing Public Awareness and Motivating Local Governments and Communities for Response and Adaptation to Climate Change**", which is implemented by the Environmental Partnership Foundation and the Bulgarian School of Politics "Dimitry Panitza" and is financed by the NGO Programme under the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism. For more information, please visit <http://www.schoolofpolitics.org/eng/index.php/news/513-roundtableonpreventionandresponse>

In February the participants in the project **“Encouraging Civic Participation of Young Roma”** finalized their non-financial projects on key problems of the communities in which they live. They developed them with the help of mentors. The project is jointly implemented by the Bulgarian School of Politics **“Dimitry Panitza”** and the Association **“New Road - Hairedin”** and financed by the NGO Programme under the European Economic Area Financial Mechanism 2009-2014.

The Bulgarian School of Politics continues its work on the analysis of the social environment and its deficits for stimulating moral and ethical debate and social transformation of public values in the country. Based on the results, key areas, which are problematic for Bulgaria, will be defined and thoroughly studied. The analysis is part of the project **“Stimulating moral and ethical debate as a basis for social transformation of public values”**, implemented by the Bulgarian School of Politics **“Dimitry Panitza”** with the financial support of the America for Bulgaria Foundation.



Please join our Facebook page where we publish regular updates on our activities and initiate discussions on different topics!